

Members

Sen. Sue Landske, Chair  
Sen. Billie Breaux  
Sen. Becky Skillman  
Sen. Allie Craycraft  
Rep. Thomas Kromkowski  
Rep. Ed Mahern  
Rep. Robert Behning  
Rep. Kathy Richardson



# CENSUS DATA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Committee  
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Authority: IC 2-5-19

## MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

Meeting Date: August 19, 1999  
Meeting Time: 10:00 A.M.  
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., Room 233  
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana  
Meeting Number: 1

**Members Present:** Sen. Sue Landske, Chair; Sen. Billie Breaux; Sen. Becky Skillman; Sen. Allie Craycraft; Rep. Ed Mahern; Rep. Robert Behning; Rep. Kathy Richardson.

**Members Absent:** Rep. Thomas Kromkowski.

Chairperson Sen. Sue Landske called the meeting to order. Committee member introductions were made.

Sen. Landske read the charge of the committee. The Census Data Advisory Committee is required by statute to do the following:

- (1) Advise and assist the Bureau of the Census in the preparation and organization of decennial census data for use by the General Assembly in reapportionment.
- (2) Work with the Bureau of the Census in defining the boundaries of census blocks in Indiana.
- (3) Coordinate Indiana's efforts to obtain an accurate population count in each decennial census.
- (4) Work with other state and federal agencies to assist in the local review program conducted in Indiana.
- (5) Work with the Code Revision Commission to prepare legislation for introduction in the regular session of the general assembly that meets during the year of the effective date of the decennial census to propose amendments to Indiana law to reflect the population information obtained as a result of the decennial census.
- (6) Study costs and other relevant aspects of acquisition by the state of a geographic information system.
- (7) Make recommendations to the General Assembly concerning changes or amendments to Indiana election law.

### Maureen Bard and Mark Stratton, Legislative Services Agency, Block Boundary Suggestion Program

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<sup>1</sup>Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.ai.org/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

Maureen Bard discussed changes from the 1990 Census and the 2000 Census. She stated that the differences include the representation of local community groups on the complete count committees. The 2000 Census will use of two sets of data (versus one set of data for the 1990 Census) and a racial matrix.

Mark Stratton described mapping and redistricting computer software that is currently available.

### **Indiana Election Division**

Laurie Christie and Spencer Valentine, Co-Directors, updated the Committee members on the Division's progress toward maintaining the state's voters' registration list as required by the National Voter Registration Act. The Division has contracted with Quest Information Systems to conduct a survey of Indiana's counties regarding, but not limited to, each county's computer system capabilities for maintaining the county's voters' registration list and to determine if the county is meeting state specified standards for maintaining the voters' registration list. Based upon the survey results, the Election Division may revise the state specified standards for maintaining voter registration lists.

The Committee discussed potential costs and options for maintaining the state's voters' registration list.

Brad King, Co-General Counsel, discussed with the Committee the following preliminary drafts: 1) PD 3035 - Public Question Ballot Language; 2) PD 3036 - Election law date references; 3) PD 3037- State certifying official references; 4) PD 3039 - Miscellaneous election law changes; and 5) Campaign finance. The committee members took the preliminary drafts under advisement and withheld action until a future meeting.

### **Morton Marcus and Carol Rogers, Indiana Business Research Center, Indiana University Kelly School of Business**

Morton Marcus and Carol Rogers provided committee members with a progress report on Indiana's 2000 Census project. Mr. Marcus reported that funding for 2000 Census activities was not provided in the biennial budget passed in the 1999 legislative session. Sen. Landske and Rep. Behning requested that by the next meeting Mr. Marcus provide the committee with a budget proposal for 2000 Census activities.

In response to Sen. Breaux's questions, Ms. Rogers stated that the Census Bureau will provide personal assistance for illiterate individuals in filling out the Census survey and have developed assistance models to be used in the hard to count areas in a county. Ms. Rogers also stated that the Census Bureau will use a special enumeration process for counting individuals who do not have an address, such as homeless individuals or those living in a shelter or dormitory style housing.

In response to a question raised by Rep. Mahern, Mr. Marcus and Ms. Rogers stated that the Census Bureau is having difficulty in employing qualified individuals to assist with 2000 Census activities.

### **Public Testimony**

Matt Brase, Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT), stated that IACT has promoted the 2000 Census through regional meetings, mayor round table discussions, annual meeting workshop, and the IACT's monthly publication.

### **Committee Discussion**

Sen. Breaux stated that the need for an accurate census count was addressed at a recent conference held by the Black Legislative Caucus.

The next meeting of the Census Data Advisory Committee was scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 1999, 10:00 a.m., Room 233 State House, Indianapolis.

Sen. Landske adjourned the meeting.